On Top Of The News Email:news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel:+297 582-7800 Monday, November 18, 2013

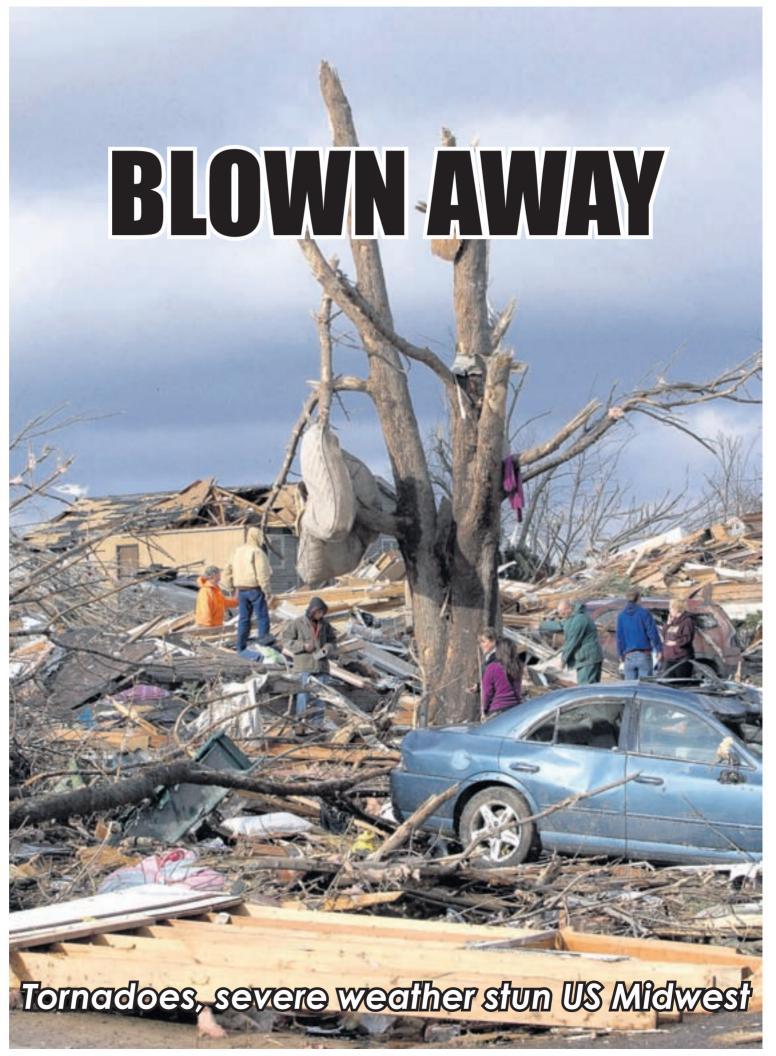
SINTERKLAAS, ZWARTE PIETS VISIT ARUBA!



ORANJESTAD — Sinterklaas, the Dutch equivalent of Santa Claus, arrived on Aruba yesterday, and was welcomed by hundreds of children, their parents and Minister of Health and Sports Dr. Alex Schwengle, who declared to Sinterklaas that "the children of Aruba are good children!" True to the island's Dutch roots, the people of Aruba celebrate the tradition of this saint and his gift-giving ways with great enthusiasm. Every year at this time in mid-November, Arubans welcome Sinterklaas, his white horse, and his handful of dutiful helpers, called Zwarte Piets, as they sail into Aruba's harbor from Spain.

Continued on page 13





A mattress is wrapped around a stripped tree in Washington, Ill., Sunday, Nov. 17, 2013. Intense thunderstorms and tornadoes swept across the Midwest, causing extensive damage in several Illinois communities while sending people to their basements for shelter.

(AP Photo/The Pantagraph, Steve Smedley)





Defiant Ford shows up at Toronto football game

TORONTO (AP) — Embattled Toronto mayor Rob Ford showed up at Sunday's Canadian Football League playoff game, despite a request by the league's commissioner that he stay away.

Ford walked into the stadium shortly after halftime accompanied by two security staffers, taking a seat about 20 rows back from the field. His arrival caused a stir in Section 129 of the Rogers Centre, with fans clogging the aisle as they snapped photos and exchanged handshakes with the mayor who recently has acknowledged smoking crack cocaine and drinking excessively.

Wearing a dark blue Argonauts jersey with "Mayor Ford" and the number 12 across the back, Ford laughed and drew cheers as he held aloft a crudely constructed replica of the Grey Cup, Canadian football's championship trophy.

Ford ignored a suggestion from CFL Commissioner Mark Cohon that he stay away from Sunday's Eastern Conference final between the Toronto Argonauts and Hamilton Tiger-

Ford was also asked not to attend Toronto's annual Santa Claus parade.

Outside the downtown staof both teams said Ford should stay away from the game.

"He needs to take some time off and get help," said Bob Walker, dressed in an Argonauts baseball cap and jacket.

"It's definitely a distraction. It was a distraction for the Santa Claus parade. He means well, he's done well for the city. It's just, it's enough, you know? We need to get on with the city and take his business somewhere else for a bit."

Hamilton fan Shawn Kowalyshyn, wearing a Tiger-Cats jersey, said the mayor has "embarrassed" himself and his family.

"Unfortunately, I'd like to support him and his policies, but he's just gone too far over the top. ... It's gotten too ridiculous," Kowalyshyn said.

Brothers Kyle and Matt O'Connor of Hamilton held up a hand-lettered sign reading 'Our Mayor Doesn't Smoke Crack!!' as they lined up to wait for stadium gates to open.

Earlier Sunday, the 44-yearold Ford was spotted outside the downtown studios of the tabloid Sun News Network, where he and brother Doug, a Toronto city councilor, were taping the first episode of their new current events television show, "Ford Nation," which is to air Monday night.

An avid Argos fan, Ford shared the stage with the team outside City Hall to celebrate their Grey Cup victory in November 2012. It would also appoint the toward a female staffer. controversy last week when dium before kickoff, fans he wore a team jersey while making a profanitylaced statement denvina allegations he had pressured a female employee for oral sex.

> That prompted Argonauts CEO Chris Rudge to call Ford's ongoing calamities

for the city."

The Toronto city council voted Friday to strip the mayor of some of his pow-

That effort will continue Monday when the council moves to deny Ford most

"an unfortunate situation became the subject of crack." crack cocaine. In interof frequently drinking, driv- who accepts his denials

a police investigation af- Ford finally decides he ter news reports surfaced needs to go on a TV show in May that he had been which would believe him, caught on video smoking and then is shown being interviewed by CBS "60 Minviews with police, former utes" correspondent Lara staffers accused the mayor Logan (Kate McKinnon)



Toronto Mayor Rob Ford stands with his wife Renata at a news conference. On Friday, Nov. 15, 2013, the City Council voted to suspend Ford's authority to appoint or dismiss the deputy mayor and his executive committee, which oversees the budget. Further efforts are expected Monday, Nov. 18, 2013 to strip Ford of most of his remaining powers, though he vows to resist with court ac-

(AP Photo/Chris Young)

of his remaining powers, including his office budget. making sexual advances But the mayor stirred up deputy mayor to lead his Ford's erratic behavior was Logan recently had to executive committee.

Ford's lawyer, Dennis Morris, accused the council of attempting an illegal "coup" and said the mayor has hired a municipal law expert, George Rust-D'Eye, to challenge the moves. Recently released court

Ford

documents show

ing while intoxicated and

parodied in the opening edy show "Saturday Night Live," with cast member Bobby Moynihan portraypoint ducks behind the lecto do a drug deal, exclaiming, "Wow, that's a lot of during the attack.

that he did crack, smoked marijuana and used alcohol.

apologize on-air for a segment of the U.S. com- Minutes" story about the deadly 2012 attack on a U.S. mission in Benghazi, Libya, saying the network ing the mayor who at one could no longer trust the testimony of a former setern at a press conference curity contractor who had claimed he was present



Obama health care woes endanger second term agenda

JULIE PACE AP White House Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) Throughout President Barack Obama's first four years in office, he prided himself on his ability to bounce back when much of Washington thought his presidency was in peril.

But the political challenge posed by Obama's disastrous health care rollout is far greater than those he overcame during the nasty debt ceiling fight with Republicans, his stumbling campaign debate in 2012 or even the painful recession.

This time, the president is fighting to regain trust and credibility with the American people. Those are the same qualities that helped keep him afloat during those earlier battles.

"It's legitimate for them to expect me to have to win back some credibility on this health care law in particular and on a whole range of these issues in general," Obama said during a news conference last week that turned into an extensive mea culpa for the health care failures consuming the White

As bad as things are for Obama, they may be worse for many members of Congress.

Democrats in both the House and Senate worry the health care problems could dim their re-election chances next year. Republicans are saddled with historically low approval ratings and an internal debate over the direction of their party, though the health law woes have proved a lifeline following the Republicans' muchcriticized handling of the government shutdown.

With Republicans sensing an opportunity in Obama's free fall, the president is sure to face a struggle in getting their support, particularly in the Republicancontrolled House of Representatives, for White House priorities such as an immigration overhaul or broad budget deal.

Without success on oth-

er fronts to counteract the health care failures, Obama will have fewer chances to change the public's view that Washington, and the president himself, are ineffective.

"We appear to be stuck, whatever direction we look," William Galston, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, said about political Washington's landscape.

Obama's health care calamity began with the flood of computer problems that crippled HealthCare.gov, the website that had been billed as a quick and easy way for people to purchase insurance.

Those troubles were compounded when at least 4.2 million people started receiving cancellation letters from their insurance companies despite Obama's repeated assurances that anyone who liked his or her insurance plan could keep

The widespread problems have spurred questions about the normally cool and confident president's management style and his competence. It has also shaken his allies.

"The rollout of the website, that's terrible. But the fact is, that will be fixed," House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi told NBC's "Meet the Press" on Sunday.

Why was the White House so poorly prepared for the long-anticipated rollout of Obama's major legislative achievement?

Why did the president seem personally unaware of the extent of the problems until they became publicly known?

For the public, those failures are changing how they view the president.

Many polls now show that Americans say Obama isn't honest or trustworthy, or a strong leader. For example, Quinnipiac University's poll of registered voters conducted this month found just 44 percent thought Obama was honest and trustworthy, down 10 points since earlier this fall. Only 48 percent felt he has strong leadership qualities, a low point in his presidency.

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President Barack Obama speaks about his signature health care law in the Brady Press Briefing Room at the White House in Washington.



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Tornadoes, severe weather stun US Midwest

DON BABWIN Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Intense thunderstorms and tornadoes swept across the U.S. Midwest on Sunday, causing extensive damage in several central Illinois communities while sending

ter and even prompting officials at Chicago's Soldier Field to evacuate the stands and delay the Bears pro football game.

ington in central Illinois appeared particularly

people scrambling for shel- hard-hit, with one resident saying his neighborhood was wiped out in a matter of seconds by what appeared to be a tornado.

"I stepped outside and The community of Wash- I heard it coming. My daughter was already in the basement, so I ran

downstairs and grabbed her, crouched in the laundry room and all of a sudden I could see daylight up the stairway and my house was gone," Michael Perdun said Sunday afternoon in an interview with The Associated Press on his cellphone. "The whole neighborhood's gone, (and) the wall of my fireplace is all that is left of my house." The rest of the structure had been blown away, as had been most of the neighborhood.

By mid-afternoon it remained unclear how many people were hurt. In a news release, the Illinois National Guard said it had dispatched firefighters and vehicles to Washington to assist with "immediate search and recovery operations in the tornado damaged area."

Steve Brewer, chief operating officer at Methodist Medical Center of Illinois in Peoria, said that four or five people had come to the hospital seeking treatment, but he described their injuries as minor. He said another area hospital had received about 15 patients, but did not know the severity of their injuries.

Brewer said doctors and other medical professionals were setting up a temporary emergency care center to treat the injured before transporting them to area hospitals.

"I went over there immediately after the tornado, walking through the neighborhoods, and I couldn't even tell what street I was on," Alderman Tyler Gee told WLS-TV. "Just completely flattened — some of the neighborhoods here in town, hundreds of homes." About 90 minutes after the tornado destroyed homes in Washington, the storm darkened downtown Chicago.



Washington, III., firefighters stand in the middle of Devonshire Street on the North side of Washington, Ill., after a tornado leveled at least fifty homes, Sunday, Nov. 17, 2013. High winds that followed the tornado are causing danger as homeowners and emergency workers try to search homes. (AP Photo/The Pantagraph, Steve Smedley)





Showdown set over military sexual assault bill

DONNA CASSATA Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A female Democratic senator has secured public support from nearly half the Senate, but not enough votes, for her proposal to give victims of rape and sexual assault in the military an independent

fense policy bill that would strip commanders of their ability to overturn jury convictions, require dishonorable discharge or dismissal for any individual convicted of sexual assault and establish a civilian review when a decision is made not to prosecute a case.



Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo. speaks on Capitol Hill in Washington during a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing on legislation regarding sexual assaults in the military. This week, the Senate is slated to consider an annual defense policy bill that would strip commanders of their ability to overturn jury convictions, require dishonorable discharge or dismissal for any individual convicted of sexual assault and establish a civilian review when a decision is made not to prosecute a case. The bill also would provide a special counsel for victims and eliminate the statute of limitations.

(AP Photo/Susan Walsh)

route outside the chain of command for prosecuting attackers.

Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand's solution for a problem the military calls an epidemic appears to have stalled in the face of united opposition from the Pentagon's top echelon and its allies in Congress, including two female senators who are former prosecutors.

Opponents of the proposal by Gillibrand, a New York Democrat, insist that commanders, not an outside military lawyer, must be accountable for meting out justice. Even so, major changes are coming for a decades-old military system just a few months after several high-profile cases infuriated Republicans and Democrats alike in a rapid chain of events by Washington standards.

"Sexual assault in the military is not new, but it has Loretta Reynolds to the been allowed to fester," Gillibrand said in a recent caucus last week. Senate speech.

The bill would provide a special counsel for victims and eliminate the statute of limitations.

Those changes in military law are backed by members of the Senate Armed Services Committee. But overshadowing the revisions is the testy, intense fight over Gillibrand's proposal to strip commanders of their authority to prosecute cases of sexual assault. She wants to hand responsibility to seasoned military lawyers outside the chain of command.

Her solution has divided the Senate, splitting Republicans and Democrats, men and women, even former attorneys general, into unusual coalitions. The lobbying has been fierce, with dueling data, testimonials and news conferences with victims. Opponents invited Marine Corps Brig. Gen. closed-door Republican

Among Gillibrand's 47 an-The Senate this week is set nounced supporters are to consider an annual de- conservative Republican

Sens. Ted Cruz of Texas and Rand Paul of Kentucky, along with 16 of the Senate's 20 women.

Standing against the plan is the chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Democratic Sen. Carl Levin of Michigan; the panel's military veterans Republican Sen. John Mc-Cain of Arizona and Democratic Sen. Jack Reed of Rhode Island, and three of the committee's women Sens. Claire McCaskill, a Missouri Democrat, and Kelly Ayotte, a New Hampshire Republican, both former prosecutors, and Sen. Deb Fischer, a Nebraska Repub-

Gillibrand says she privately has received backing from more than 50 senators, but

be needed to overcome procedural hurdles for a vote on her amendment to the defense bill. To secure more votes, she said last week she was considering scaling back her plan to focus solely on sexual assault and rape instead of all serious crimes. That prompted complaints from her original backers that it would create "pink courts," and Gillibrand said on ABC television's "This Week" Sunday she was reverting to her initial bill.

Either way, it hasn't diminished the opposition.

"There (are) now enough members of the Senate that begin to grasp that letting commanders walk away from this is a big mistake; holding their feet to the fire is what we need to be do-





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New York City election could herald new progressive era

GINIA BELLAFANTE © 2013 New York Times NEW YORK - On the corner of Canal and Varick streets at the moment sits a 15,000-square-foot plastic tent, one that required a week's worth of construction, the kind of edifice that typically at this time of year is given over to the sale of hand-knit scarves and tiny things made of wood. The purpose of this particular tent is outside the scope of holiday crafts: The project, called Talking Transition, was developed by a consortium of nonprofit groups, including the Revson Foundation, to allow New Yorkers to voice their opinions about what sort of direction the city should take in the aftermath of Bill de Blasio's victory in the mayor's race. Filled with stacked milk crates, the tent, through which more than 5,000 people have passed, is meant to convey a soapbox theme. Rows of tablet computers allow visitors to answer survey questions, the data eventually to be compiled and disseminated.

The mission is nonideological, a spokeswoman for the venture informed me, but the tone is decidedly leftist. Panel discussions are devoted to subjects including the plight of low-wage workers and the difficulties the poor and the vulnerable face gaining access to health care. Walls are lined with handwritten notes giv-

ing expression to what New Yorkers would like to see more of, none of it surprising: higher-paying jobs, affordable housing, equality. One note simply reads,

risen to power, the politics that in New York now exist at the fashionable center rather than on the outcast periphery, have deep and expansive roots in the city, roots that predate the Oc-

el idea: organizing," Public Advocate-elect Letitia James said at a convening of leading progressives at the headquarters of the Service Employees Interna-

into the body politic a nov- cross-endorse those candidates, usually Democrats, who share its values - principles lost to the long reign of neo-liberalism.

Over the past decade, the party has expanded its reach to Connecticut, Washington, D.C., and Oregon, where it successfully backed legislation for a pilot program called Pay It Forward, to help students get a higher education debt-free. (Students will be able to attend Oregon's public universities at no cost, giving a percentage of their post-graduation salaries to the system for a fixed period.) In Bridgeport, Conn., this month, the party was instrumental in electing school board members opposed to the sitting superintendent, an advocate of school privatization. In perhaps a harbinger of alliances to come, the party has periodically backed like-minded Republicans in state legislature races.

When de Blasio assumes office Jan. 1, he will have at his hand a City Council with whom he shares a sensibility, again thanks in great part to the efforts of the Working Families Party. (The party determined its name after polling; Working Families beat out Common Sense, among other ideas.) As the party's executive director, Dan Cantor, explained it, Working Families began recruiting candidates for council races in 2007.



New York Mayor-elect Bill de Blasio and Letitia James, the elected public advocate, who both had Working Families Party support, at the Veterans Day Parade in New York earlier this month. The growth of progressive politics, evident in elections for New York mayor, City Council and public advocate, is tied to the Working Families Party, which is extending its reach beyond the city. (Richard Perry/The New York Times)

The certainty with which it seemed a year ago that Christine C. Quinn would be the next mayor has left some to interpret de Blasio's ascension as itself a kind of pop-up enterprise. His longtime supporters like to joke about how difficult it was to get reporters to come listen to him in April. But the modern progressive politics on which he has

cupy movement and originate largely in the creation of the Working Families Party.Begun in the late 1990s and seemingly moribund for some time, the party, closely linked to labor and community activism, was founded on the idea that economic humanism and greater equality were essential to a functioning society. "The party injected tional Union last week. "It's so simplistic. When I first ran in 2001 and 2003, people were so disconnected from politics and so disillusioned."

James won her second City Council race solely on the Working Families line; she is the only New York candidate in the party's history to have done so. The party exists to recruit, support and





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US Financial Front:

Boeing takes \$100 billion in orders from Gulf show



Emirati officials greet each other in front of an Emirates Airbus A380 on display during the opening day of the Dubai Airshow in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Sunday Nov. 17, 2013. The Dubai Airshow is seen as an increasingly important barometer on the state of the industry and the rising roles of the big-spending Gulf carriers Etihad, Qatar Airways and Emirates as they compete for routes and critical stopover traffic between Asia and Europe and the Americas.

(AP Photo/Kamran Jebreili)

AYA BATRAWY Associated Press

CHICAGO, Illinois/DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — U.S.-based Boeing Co. dominated on the first day of the Dubai Airshow, netting \$100 billion in orders at an event that showcased the spending power and aggressive expansion efforts of the Middle East's Gulf Arab carriers.

The 342 orders represented more than twice the value of those seen by European rival Airbus, who said it took 142 orders worth some \$40

The massive commitments came from just four carriers in the tiny nations of Qatar

ates, which are in a race to create more jobs for their own citizens and diversify their oil-dependent econo-

"In recent years, much of the action in global aviation has shifted to the Middle East because countries like the U.A.E. and Qatar have tapped into our geographical advantage to build a new air transport connection for the world," Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, chairman of Emirates and the smaller flydubai, told reporters.

Of the major Gulf Arab carriers, Dubai-based Emirates airline flexed its buying power the hardest, with orand the United Arab Emir- ders for 150 of the planned

price tag of \$55.6 billion. The aircraft is a larger and more fuel-efficient model of the company's popular 777 wide-body.

Boeing CEO James McNerney Jr. called it part of the "largest product launch in commercial jetliner history." The airline also announced orders for 50 Airbus A380s — the main competition for the 777X. Airbus says the planned purchase is listed at \$23 billion.

The Dubai Airshow is seen as an increasingly important barometer on the state of the aviation industry and the rising roles of the big-spending Gulf carriers Etihad, Qatar Airways, Emirates and flydubai as

Boeing 777x at a combined they compete for routes and critical stopover traffic between Asia and Europe and the Americas.

> This year's event, which also included announcements of promised purchasing rights for dozens more aircraft, surpassed the record \$155 billion in deals in 2007's edition, before the global economic downturn.

The five-day aviation trade show's location, at the new Dubai World Central airport's grounds, further reflects the Gulf Arab region's own rapid growth in the aviation industry. Dubai hopes the new airport will be the largest in the world and the most frequented transit hub, connecting European and Asian travelers. Plans calls for most of the traffic from Dubai's current airport to be eventually shifted to the new facility, which officials say could one day handle 160 million passengers a year as part of the region's growing profile as a global aviation hub. It remains unclear whether Dubai will continue to operate both airports or eventually move traffic entirely to the new airport grounds.

"To me what's happening at Dubai World Central, Dubai (International) Airport, Emirates Airline and flydubai, all this reflects the growth of aviation globally and in this region," Al Maktoum of Emirates and flydubai said.



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French president vows tough Iran stance in Israel

IAN DEITCH **Associated Press** JERUSALEM (AP) — Visiting tain his country's tough earning praise from his Is-

French President Francois stance in upcoming nucle-Hollande vowed to main- ar talks with Iran this week,

raeli hosts Sunday as he for too long has participatbegan a three-day visit to the Jewish state.

has repeatedly voiced concern that the emerging deal global powers are negotiating with Iran gives it too much, without guaranteeing that the Islamic Republic's ability to develop a nuclear weapon is eliminated.

Hollande vowed to keep up pressure on Iran and not make any concessions regarding nuclear proliferation.

"If there hadn't been sanctions, if they hadn't been enforced, it's clear that we would never even have had the words from Iran — and I don't yet speak of actions — that we had in the last few weeks," he said In a joint press conference with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. "We have a duty to resolve this problem that has been under discussions for too many years because Iran

ed in discussions without taking actions."

Netanyahu has been outspoken in his opposition to a potential deal in which the international community would ease some sanctions on Iran in exchange for some curbs on Iran's nuclear program. The countries fear that Iran is trying to build a nuclear weapon, a charge Iran denies.

Speaking alongside Hollande, Netanyahu once again warned that Iran could soon have enough fissile material to develop a bomb within weeks and that Israel would not be bound to what he called a "bad deal." At the same time, he thanked Hollande for leading a tough stance that has blocked a deal thus far. The warm atmosphere comes at a time when Israel increasingly finds itself at odds with its top ally, the United States, over the talks with Iran.



French President François Hollande, second left, speaks with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu as he visits the Hall of Remembrance at the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial in Jerusalem, Sunday, Nov. 17, 2013. Sara Netanyahu, stands, fourth left, and Hollande's partner Valerie Trierweiler stands at left.

(AP Photo/Menahem Kahana)

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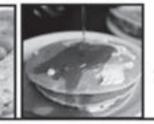




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Greece: Thousands march in memory of 1973 revolt

DEMETRIS NELLAS Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Tens of thousands joined peaceful marches through Greece's two biggest cities Sunday to commemorate the 40th anniversary of a bloody student uprising against the then dictatorship.

Previous marches had been marked by riots and running battles between anarchists and riot police, but this year's commemoration went off without incident, partly thanks to heavy police presence. In Athens, 9,000 police were deployed and 99 people were detained provisionally before the start of the marches.

According to generally conservative police estimates, about 10,000 mostly

leftist, anarchist and union supporters joined one march in Athens and a similar number of Communist Party supporters marched separately. In the northern city of Thessaloniki, an estimated 13,000 have turned out, with no incidents reported.

Both marches in the capital ended outside the U.S. Embassy, about 3.5 kilometers (2.2 miles) from the National Technical University of Athens, widely known as the Polytechnic, the center of the 1973 revolt. Most Greeks still blame the U.S. for supporting the 1967-74 military regime.

The revolt was crushed when a tank stormed through the university's gates in the early hours of Nov. 17, 1973. The number of fatalities is still disputed;



Protesters lie on the pavement in front of the Greek parliament during a protest commemorating the student uprising against a military dictatorship in 1973, in Athens on Sunday, Nov. 17, 2013. (AP Photo/Kostas Tsironis)

at the time, the regime had announced 15 dead.

the following year, after the return to civilian government, estimated fatalities

at 34, but mentioned only 18 names. There were over 1,100 injured.

Nigeria:

Frenchman escaped 11 months captivity

LORI HINNANT Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — A French engineer kidnapped in northern Nigeria 11 months ago escaped on a motorcycle without paying ransom and will fly back to France on Sunday, police said.

Francis Collomp escaped from his abductors in Zaria, in the northern Nigerian state of Kaduna, and went to the nearest police station, said Kaduna State Police Commissioner Olufemi Adenaike.

Police identified no suspects, but the Boko Haram splinter group Ansaru had claimed responsibility for his kidnapping.

Some 30 men stormed Collomp's home on Dec. 19, 2012 — his 63rd birthday and Mali.

— and took him prisoner, killing a neighbor and a security guard in the attack. Boko Haram has claimed responsibility for the kidnapping of another French national, a priest who was abducted in Cameroon on Wednesday and taken to Nigeria.

French President Francois Hollande said he was sending his foreign minister to Nigeria immediately to greet Collomp "who freed himself."

"We're happy for Francis Collomp, but we do not forget the other hostages," Hollande said in a news conference in Jerusalem. The president said a total of seven French citizens are being held in Nigeria, Syria







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Passenger plane crashes in Russia, 50 killed

JIM HEINTZ Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — A passenger airliner crashed and caught fire Sunday night while trying to land at the airport in the Russian city of Kazan, killing all 50 people aboard, officials said.

The Boeing 737 belonging to Tatarstan Airlines was trying to make a second landing attempt when it touched the surface of the runway near the control tower, and was "destroyed and caught fire," said Sergei Izvolky, the spokesman for the Russian aviation agency.

A spokeswoman for the Emergencies Ministry, Irina Rossius, said there were 44 passengers and six crew members aboard the flight from Moscow and all had been killed.

The ministry released a list of the dead, which included Irek Minnikhanov, the son of Tatarstan's governor, and Alexander Antonov, who headed the Tatarstan branch of the Federal Security Service, the main successor agency to the Soviet-era KGB.

Kazan, a city of about 1.1

about 720 kilometers (450 whom are Muslims. miles) east of Moscow. The ministry released pho-

million and the capital of who live in the republic cow's Domodedovo airthe Tatarstan republic, is are ethnic Tatars, most of port earlier in the day told

Channel One state television that the landing in The republic is one of the tographs from the night- Moscow had been fright-



A psychologist at the airport speaks to relatives and friends of those who were aboard the Russian passenger airliner that crashed in Kazan, about 720 kilometers (450 miles) east of Moscow, Sunday, Nov. 17, 2013.

wealthier regions of Russia time crash scene showing because of its large deposits of oil. It is also is a major manufacturing center, producing trucks, helicopters and planes.

About half of the people

parts of the aircraft and debris scattered across the ground.

A journalist who said she had flown on the same aircraft from Kazan to Mos(AP Photo/Nikolai Alexandrov)

ening because of a strong vibration during the final minutes of the flight.

"When we were landing it was not clear whether there was a strong wind, although in Moscow the weather was fine, or some kind of technical trouble or problem with the flight," said Lenara Kashafutdino-

"We were blown in different directions, the plane was tossed around. The man sitting next to me was white as a sheet."

Russia has seen a string of deadly crashes in recent years.

Some have been blamed on the use of aging aircraft, but industry experts point to a number of other problems, including poor crew training, crumbling airports, lax government controls and widespread neglect of safety in the pursuit of profits.

dialogue in Egypt after standoff

MARIAM RIZK **Associated Press**

CAIRO (AP) — A Muslim Brotherhood-led alliance said Saturday it is ready for a national dialogue to end Egypt's political standoff. for the first time not formally demanding the nation's toppled Islamist president return to power.

The country's militarybacked government, however, signaled no intention to start talks with supporters of ousted President Mohammed Morsi. Underscoring that, judges also suggested Saturday that the government disband the Brotherhood's political party.

The call by the alliance of Islamist groups is the first formal proposition by Morsi supporters, who have organized near-daily protests demanding his return to office since he was removed in a popularly supported military coup July 3.

Mohammed Bishr, a leading member of the Brotherhood, told reporters the proposition calls for the release of detainees arrested after the ouster of Morsi. The coalition also asked for the end of security crackdown on Brotherhood members and its allies, as well as the reopening of television channels supporting them. "We are keen on the country's stability and to get out of the economic crunch," Bishr said.

The coalition said its call is directed to other national political forces, as well as the military and the interim government it supports.

While the proposal offered Saturday doesn't call for Morsi's return to the presidency, it insists on basing a solution on "constitutional legitimacy." The group didn't elaborate.



November's 4 course dinner

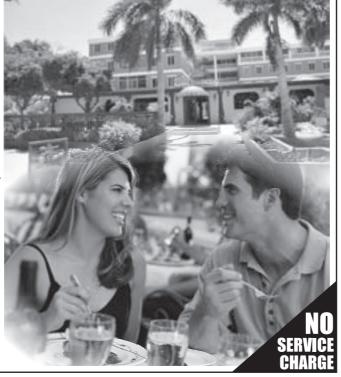
First course Cajun beef salad Seafood Cocktail Escargot a la crème Garden Salad

Third course Steak Diane Piccata Milanese Chicken Florentine Plain or Stuffed Grouper Fourth course

Second course Soup of the day Chocolate mousse Pineapple soufflé Ice cream

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Syrians continue to pour into Lebanon during clashes

DIAA HADID RYAN LUCAS **Associated Press**

BEIRUT (AP) — Thousands of Syrians poured into Lebanon over the past two days, taking shelter in wedding halls and makeshift shacks after fleeing heavy fight-

backs on the capital's southern periphery, the opposition remains firmly entrenched in other areas around Damascus and capable of carrying out large attacks. A massive explosion late Sunday targeting

Despite the recent set- end, but many had not yet registered with the U.N., so more precise figures weren't available.

> Sleiman said some of the new arrivals settled into tin shack slums that dot eastern Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, and they were being offered thick plastic to reinforce their shelters against the cold. The U.N. refugee agency was also distributing blankets, mattresses, food, diapers and hygiene

kits to the refugees.

The new refugees join an estimated 1.4 million Syrians — 800,000 of whom have registered — who have already found shelter in Lebanon, according to Lebanese officials. The massive influx has proven a burden for Lebanon, and has helped stoke the country's already simmering sectorian tensions.

Sleiman said most of the Syrians who crossed into

Lebanon over the weekend were from the town of Qara, which is the focal point of the offensive along with the nearby towns of Rima and Nabak.

The battle for Qalamoun has been expected for weeks, and both the government and the opposition have been reinforcing their positions in the region ahead of winter, when much of the area is covered with snow.



Syrian displaced children play outside their tents at the Syrian refugee camp at Delhamiyeh village in the Bekaa valley, eastern Lebanon, in November, 2013.

(AP Photo/Hussein Malla)

ing in a rugged mountain region across the border in western Syria, U.N. and Iocal officials said Sunday.

The clashes in Qalamoun, an area that stretches from north of the Syrian capital along the Lebanese frontier, appeared to be part of a long-anticipated government offensive aimed at cutting a key rebel supply route and cementing President Bashar Assad's hold on the strategic corridor from the capital to the coast. Over the past month, Assad's forces have made headway against the rebels on two key fronts, capturing a string of opposition-held suburbs south of Damascus and taking two non "without anything extowns and a military base outside the northern city of Aleppo. A government victory in the battle for Qalamoun would deal a severe blow to the already beleaquered rebels on Damascus' doorstep.

an administrative office in the northeastern suburb of Harasta killed at least 31 government troops, the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said. There was no immediate confirmation from government officials or state

Since the heavy fighting in Qalamoun began Friday, some 10,000 Syrians have fled across the border to the Lebanese frontier town of Arsal, former Mayor Bassel Hoieiri said. He said the new arrivals have crammed into wedding halls and improvised shacks.

Some families left so quickly that they arrived in Lebacept the clothes on their backs," said Dana Sleiman, who works for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

She said at least 1,000 Syrian families crossed into Lebanon over the week-

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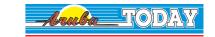
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Kabul bomb sends message on security pact vote

AZAM AHMED JAWAD SUKHANYAR © 2013 New York Times KABUL, Afghanistan - A powerful car bomb that exploded near the site where Afghan elders are set to vote on a long-term security agreement with the United States killed at least 10 people Saturday, rattling central Kabul and underscoring the insurgency's desire to prevent a U.S. presence in Afghanistan beyond 2014.

The bomb exploded shortly after 3 p.m. near the gates of Kabul Educational University, as students and pedestrians were filtering through the area, police officials said. An Afghan army Humvee patrolling the area was also struck, killing at least one soldier and wounding three others, according to witnesses and the spokesman for the Afghan Ministry of Defense. As the area is cleared, more bodies are likely to be uncovered.

The scene around the gates of the school was one of devastation. More than a dozen cars were destroyed in the blast, which leveled structures and pulverized bystanders, leaving shattered glass, blood and pieces of flesh covering the ground. The attack occurred at a police checkpoint on the way to the university, which is near a major transportation hub. A large bus filled with people was shredded in the blast. "Students and schoolgirls were passing," said Dr. Ghulam Sarwar Zohair, an employee of a nongovorganization ernmental with offices nearby. "Lots of people got injured and probably killed."

The gate of the university is just a few hundred yards from the site where elders and other important Af-

vote on the security agreement between Afghanistan and the United States on Thursday. The approval of the pact by the assembly, known as a loya jirga, is a vital step toward allowing U.S. forces to remain in the country and continue training the Afghan army.

"We believe it was meant

ghans have assembled to have been on high alert in the days before the vote. Soldiers and police officers have been searching the area surrounding the site in recent weeks, demanding documentation and ownership papers from people in households in the vicinity. The bombing Saturday was a major blow to efforts to protect a significant symbol the wishes of the Americans and "implement a treacherous deal which in our history will forever be known as national sedition and a criminal act against our nation. Under this treacherous deal, undertaken between a master and slave, the barbarian American Army will continue its occupation of our beloved homeland."



Afghan security forces clear and inspect the site of a car bomb blast at a police checkpoint near the Kabul Education University in Kabul, Afghanistan, Nov. 16, 2013. At least 10 people were killed Saturday in the explosion that struck near the site where Afghan elders are set to vote on a longterm security agreement with the United States.

(Daniel Berehulak/The New York Times)

to bring disorder before we convene the jirga," said a spokesman for the loya jirga, Abdul Khaliq Hussain Pashayee. "We are hopeful and expect Afghan security forces to provide a better security environment for the representatives of the people who will be meeting next week."

Violence has been somewhat muted in Kabul in recent months. A spate of major attacks on the capital early in the summer, including one that killed at least nine people, gave way to an uneasy silence. Afghan security forces of the country's fledgling democracy. About 2,500 people are expected to convene next week for the iirga, supported by President Hamid Karzai.

The Taliban, which did not immediately take responsibility for the attack, have been vehement in their opposition to the security pact, calling Karzai's jirga a "farce." The group released a statement last week denouncing the security deal and urging Afghans to boycott the jirga. The Karzai government, the Taliban wrote in the statement, wants to carry out

As recently as a month ago, it was far from assured that the Afghan government even wanted to sign the deal. Bitter recriminations between Karzai and his U.S. counterparts had led to a stalemate, leaving the future of training - and, indirectly, funding - for the Afghan forces up in the air. But last month, Afghan and U.S. officials reached a crucial breakthrough. Secretary of State John Kerry spent nearly 24 hours negotiating with Karzai, ending the marathon session with an agreement on major elements.

9 attackers are killed in west China

JANE PERLEZ

© 2013 New York Times

BEIJING - Nine assailants were shot and killed Saturday night after they tried to storm a police station in the restive western Chinese province of Xinjiang, the state-run Xinhua news agency and Radio Free Asia said. Two police officers also died in the attack.

Details of the assault were sparse, but the news agency said the attackers were armed with knives and axes.

Calls to the authorities in Kashgar, about 100 miles from the police station, and the nearby town of Bachu were not answered. The violence at the Selibuya police station near Kashgar comes more than two weeks after the Chinese authorities arrested five people from Xinjiang province that they said were involved in a deadly attack last month on Tiananmen Square that left five dead.

The Chinese government has suggested that the suspects in the Beijing attack were Uighur separatists.

The Xinhua news agency did not identify the assailants in Saturday's attack as Uighurs, an ethnic minority concentrated in Xinjiana. Twenty-one people died in clashes between ethnic Uighurs and the police in the same area earlier this year. Radio Free Asia, which is financed by the U.S. government, reported that the shootout attracted a large number of Uighur onlookers, angry at what they described as the highhanded actions of the police.



LOGILA TODAY

Sinterklaas arrives on Aruba just in time for the Holidays!







Continued from Front



Most anticipated of all are the evenings leading up to and including the night of December 5, when Sinterklaas leaves chocolate letters and coins, gingerbread cookies, and small toys in the shoes of good Aruban boys and girls.















Meeting planners enjoy colorful Breakfast in the Park!

ARIKOK PARK - The seg-tion meeting, convention, duces the planners to poment of tourism known as group, incentive, and convention travel is a vital component of Aruba's tourism. These reviews allow plan-The team at our Aruba Convention Bureau (ACB) is devoted to sharing the pleasures of our island with meeting and event planners from around the world, spotlighting what makes our destination perfect for their group's next destina-

or incentive trip.

One of the tools the ACB uses is a Destination Review. ners to have an up-close, firsthand "taste" of Aruba, enjoying our accommodations, restaurants, and activities. Showcasing what is unique about our island and what differentiates it from other island destinations, the ACB team intro-

tential event locales that exude Aruban authenticity and that special sense of place only found here.

Recently, ACB representatives Jerusha Rasmijn and Darysse Croes hosted a group of 13 meeting planners from North America. These meeting planners have potential groups for 2014, and are considering Aruba as a site. One



of the highlights of the group's Destination Revue was "Breakfast in the Park." Held in Arikok National Park in the area known as Hoffi Shon Shoco, the breakfast introduced the planners to a potential al fresco event venue for smaller groups. Local event planner Fernando Mansur and his team at Mosaic Event Planners achieved a gorgeous setup that tastefully harmonized with the natu-

ral beauty of the surroundings of Arikok National Park. In the spirit of the venue, traditional Aruban specialties like croquets, balchi di pisca, pica di papaya, tamarijn, and ayacas were served.

After fueling up on breakfast, the group walked to the Visitor's Center, where they learned more about the park, followed by a ieep safari tour with De Palm Tours.

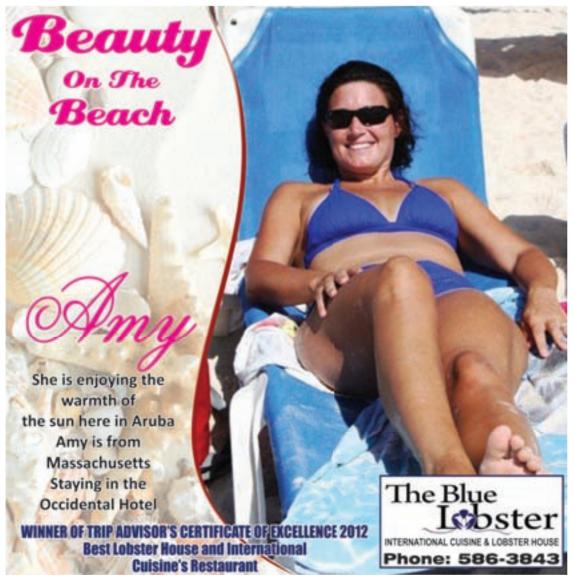


Sisters Frances and Carol honored at the Occidental Grand Vacation Club



PALM BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring two very nice sisters who are loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba, as Distinguished Visitors, at the taurants, casinos and they Occidental Grand Beach always say that Aruba truly Resort. The symbolic hon- is One Happy Island and orary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 consecutive years. The honorees were Frances Gauthier of the Occidental Vacaand her sister Carol Cardition Club.

nale, of Dedham, Massachusetts. Frances and Carol are loval members of the Occidental Vacation Club, and they love Aruba for the climate, beaches, resthe Occidental Grand is a wonderful Resort. The certificate was presented by Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with staff members







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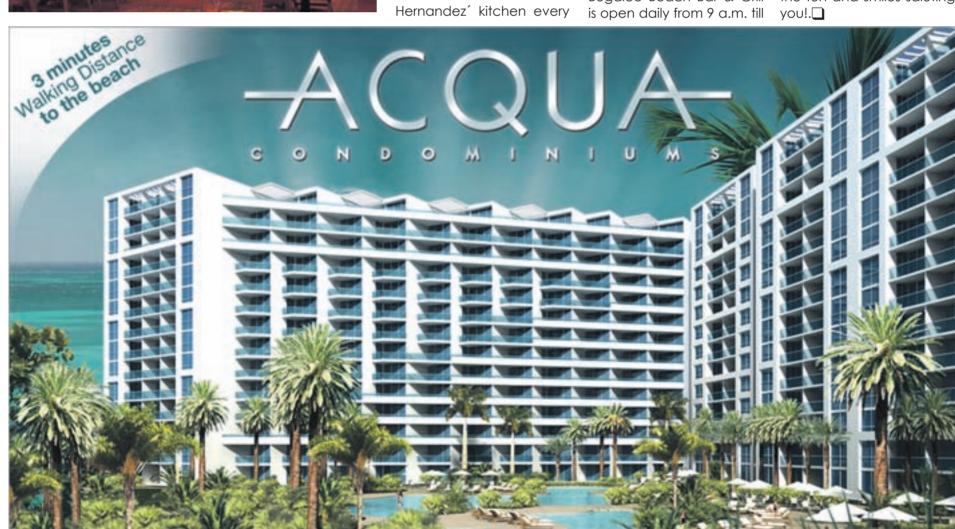
PALM BEACH - Fresher than Fresh, is what you are served in the popular Bugaloe Beach Bar & Grill, located at De Palm Pier, between the RIU Palace Hotel and The Raddison Hotel. Mondays will no longer be just another Monday. No! It's Crazy Fish Monday at Bugaloe! Beautiful colorful platter of exquisite fish, yellow rice and rich vegetables is what you will be served from Chef Hernandez' kitchen every



Monday. Whether choosing Fried Fish Basket for only \$15 or a delicious Red Snapper for \$20, you wish it was Monday every day! Bugaloe is known for fun and craziness, so it was only logical Chef Marc Hernandez likes to go wild when it comes to his cooking.

Caught in the morning, served at night is the true Bugaloe way, maybe this explains its popularity from the start. Crazy Fish Monday is served from 5.30 p.m. till 10 p.m. Bugaloe Beach Bar & Grill is open daily from 9 a.m. till

midnight. Start your day of right with a delicious cappuccino, or walk in to enjoy a casual lunch in between sunbathing. A few nights a week Bugaloe is host to some of the best live bands of Aruba, while you are savoring dinner and enjoying the beautiful Aruba Sunset! Don't forget to make one hour in the day even happier at Bugaloe's daily Happy Hour from 5 till 6 p.m. Reservations are not necessary, just follow your hips to the music and the fun and smiles saluting you!.



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NFL Capsules

Eagles beat Redskins 24-16, take NFC East lead

The Associated Press PHILADELPHIA (AP) PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Nick Foles threw for 298 yards and ran for a touchdown, LeSean McCoy had two TDs rushing and the Philadelphia Eagles snapped a 10-game home losing streak with a 24-16 victory over the Washington Redskins on Sunday.

A year after finishing 4-12 under Andy Reid, Chip Kelly's Eagles (6-5) are first in the NFC East. They're a half-game ahead of idle Dallas (5-5). The defending division champion Redskins fell to 3-7.

The Eagles hadn't won at the Linc in 413 days since defeating the New York Giants on Sept. 30, 2012.

Down 24-0 in the fourth quarter, the Redskins rallied behind Robert Griffin III's TD passes of 62 yards to Darrel Young and 41 yards to Aldrick Robinson and both 2-point conversions.

Continued on page 20



Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Nick Foles (9) dives into the end zone for a touchdown as Washington Redskins inside linebacker London Fletcher (59) reaches to stop him during the first half of an NFL football game in Philadelphia, Sunday, Nov. 17, 2013.



Jimmie Johnson, center, his wife, Chandra, and his daughter, Genevieve, celebrate after he won his sixth NASCAR Sprint Cub Series championship in Homestead, Fla., Sunday, Nov. 17, 2013. **Associated Press**

JENNA FRYER AP Auto Racing Writer HOMESTEAD, Florida (AP) Jimmie Johnson won his sixth NASCAR championship in eight years Sunday to stake his claim as one of the most dominant com-

petitors in the sports history. Johnson, needing only to finish 23rd or better to spoil Matt Kenseth's career season, was on cruise control most of the day at Homestead-Miami Speedway. Johnson had just one hic-

Jimmie Johnson wins 6th NASCAR championship

cup en route to his ninthplace finish, when a stack up on a restart caused Johnson and Kenseth to bang slightly, costing Johnson 15 spots.

caused slight damage to the late Dale Earnhardt. dropped to 23rd in the field. A caution allowed him to head to pit road, where crew chief Chad Knaus methodically barked commands to repair the damage.

Johnson was soon off and running as if nothing had happened.

He claimed the championship by 19 points over Kenseth, now looming squarely in Johnson's windshield is the mark of seven titles Although the incident held by Richard Petty and

the fender on the No. 48 "I have six, and we'll see if I Chevrolet, Johnson only can get seven," said Johnson, who has been asked repeatedly of late where he thinks he stands in NAS-CAR history.

> "Time will tell. I think we need to save the argument until I hang up the helmet, then it's worth the araument. Let's wait until I hang

up the helmet until we really start thinking about this." Kenseth, needing a Johnson collapse to have any shot at the title, positioned himself to pounce should anything go awry. He led a race-high 144 laps and finished second to Joe Gibbs Racing teammate Denny Hamlin. "It was just unbelievable year for us, obviously we wanted to win the championship as good as we ran all year," said Kenseth, who won seven races in his first season with JGR.

Continued on page 21





Umberger helps Blue Jackets beat Senators 4-1

OTTAWA, Ontario (AP) -Nick Floigno and the Columbus Blue Jackets simply outmanned the Ottawa Senators.

Ryan Johansen, R.J. Umberger and Fedor Tyutin each scored power-play goals, leading the Blue Jackets over Ottawa 4-1 on Sunday.

Special teams were clearly the difference in this game. Ottawa was 0-for-5 with the man advantage, scoring its only goal on a 5-on-3.

"Our power play was huge and our penalty kill was great,'' said Floigno, who played his first game against the Senators since being traded to Columbus in July 2012. "This was a big win for our team and gives us confidence.''

Derek MacKenzie also scored for Columbus (7-10-3), and Sergei Bobrovsky stopped 30 shots.

"When your goalie's making big saves you want to work for him at the other end and get some goals," Johansen said. "Everybody was really good."

Erik Karlsson scored the lone goal for the Senators (8-8-4) in the third period. Craig Anderson made 18 saves.

A brawl broke out in the third period after Ottawa's Mark Borowiecki caught Jared Boll with his head down. James Wisniewski quickly came to his teammate's defense and fought Borowiecki. The two were tossed from the were sorted out.

"I was just trying to finish a check," Borowiecki said. hurt someone or put someone in jeopardy physically or anything like that. I was just trying to make a hard

play and what happened, happened.''

The small matinee crowd of 15,535 grew quiet after the Blue Jackets grabbed a 3-0 lead with two goals in the second period.

Senators coach Paul MacLean said he is struggling to understand how his team can play so well one night and so poorly the next.

"At some point and time when you hit 30 (games) you are what you are, and if this is what we are as an inconsistent group, it's not going to be much fun," MacLean said.

"We'll examine all that stuff and we'll see if we need to make changes, but we need to do something," he said. "At the end of the day, it comes down to the guys wearing the sweaters. They have to be ready to play."

Umberger managed to get his stick on the rebound after Johansen took a shot from inside the blue line. Then the Blue Jackets made the most of a two-man advantage when Tyutin scored his second of the season at 12:07. MacKenzie put the game away when he made it 4-0 with his second goal at the five-minute mark of the

The Senators finally solved Bobrovsky when Karlsson scored his seventh of the season with Ottawa enjoying a two-man advantage at 17:33 of the third.

"We can't keep batgame once the penalties tling back every game because it's not going to work," Karlsson said. "We're 20 games in and "I would never want to it seems like there's a lot of games left to be played, but if we don't start showing up soon it's going to be over quick.''



Ottawa Senators' Eric Gryba, right, falls to the ice as he attempts to get the puck from Columbus Blue Jackets' **Boone Jenner during** first-period NHL hockey game action in Ottawa, Ontario, Sunday, Nov. 17, 2013.

Associated Press



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Buffalo Bills outside linebacker Manny Lawson, right, celebrates a fumble recover with teammate Jim Leonhard during the first half of an NFL football game against the New York Jets on

NFL Capsules

Continued from page 18

RG3 then drove the Redskins to the Eagles 18 before his pass off his back foot was intercepted by Brandon Boykin.

BENGALS 40, BROWNS 21 CINCINNATI (AP) — Andy Dalton threw two touchdown passes and Cincinnati returned a blocked punt and a fumble for touchdowns during 31-point second quarter that set a Bengals record and swept the AFC North leaders over Cleveland.

The Bengals (7-4) head into their bye week with their division lead intact. They'd

lost their last two games in overtime, tying the NFL record and allowing the Browns (4-6) to draw close. The biggest quarter in club history left this one in hand by halftime. It ended as the most lopsided game in the intrastate series since Cincinnati's 30-0 win in Cleveland in 2006.

Dalton had a horrid start that helped Cleveland get a promising early lead. He threw two passes that were picked off by Joe Haden, who ran one of them back 29 yards for a touchdown and a 13-0 lead in the first auarter.

STEELERS 37, LIONS 27 PITTSBURGH (AP) — Ben Roethlisberger passed for 367 yards and four touchdowns, including two in the final 5 minutes as Pittsburgh rallied to beat Detroit.

Antonio Brown caught seven passes for 147 yards and two scores and Pittsburgh's defense rebounded from a horrific second quarter to shut out Detroit in the second half. The Steelers (4-6) have won two straight and kept the Lions (6-4) winless in Pittsburgh for 58 years and counting.

Matthew Stafford threw for 362 yards with two touchdowns and an interception to become the Lions' alltime leading passer. Calvin Johnson hauled in six passes for 179 yards and both scores, but Detroit's two stars disappeared over the final 30 minutes.

Stafford completed just 3 of 16 passes in the second half, with none of the completions going to Johnson. BILLS 37, JETS 14

ORCHARD PARK, New York (AP) — Jairus Byrd had two interceptions in leadina a Buffalo defense that forced four turnovers in a victory over the Jets.

Kyle Williams had two sacks reer-high 193 yards receivand forced a fumble, and Da'Norris Searcy returned Geno Smith's third interception 32 yards for a touchdown. Buffalo (4-7) snapped a three-game skid and won for only the second time in seven

Buffalo's EJ Manuel won Round 2 of the AFC East showdown of rookie auarterbacks by finishing 20 of 28 for 245 yards passing and two scores.

Smith, a second-round pick out of West Virginia, struggled in blustery conditions, finishing 8 of 23 for 103 yards four turnovers — including a lost fumble — before being yanked in favor of Matt Simms after three quarters. The Jets (5-5) became the NFL's first team to alternate wins and losses through the first 10 games of the sea-

RAIDERS 28, TEXANS 23

HOUSTON (AP) — Rookie Matt McGloin threw three touchdown passes in his first NFL start and Oakland extended Houston's franchise-record skid to eight games in Texans coach Gary Kubiak's return from a mini-stroke.

McGloin, an undrafted free agent, was 18 of 32 for 197 yards in place of an injured Terrelle Pryor.

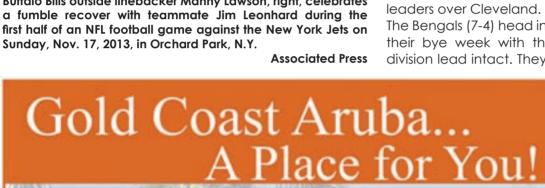
Kubiak wasn't on the sidelines, instead coaching upstairs from the booth on doctor's orders two weeks after collapsing at halftime of Houston's game against Indianapolis.

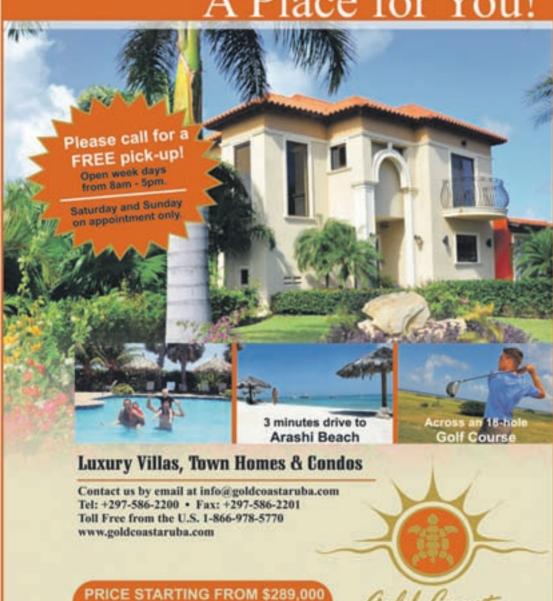
Houston (2-8) had a chance to take the lead late. But Matt Schaub's pass to Andre Johnson on fourth down from the 8 was broken up in the end zone to give Oakland (4-6) the

CARDINALS 27, JAGUARS 14

JACKSONVILLE, Florida (AP) Carson Palmer threw for 419 yards and two scores and did not throw an interception for the first time all year, leading Arizona over Jacksonville.

Michael Floyd had a caing, including a 91-yard touchdown on a catchand-run. Will Blackmon was beaten on the play, and then slipped off the receiver and rolled into cornerback Alan Ball to set Floyd free the rest of the way.

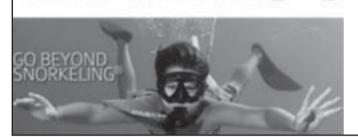




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Blazers beat Raptors in OT for 6th straight win

TORONTO (AP) -- A steady added a season-high 19. hand and cool demeanor helped Damian Lillard and the Portland Trail Blazers.

Lillard and LaMarcus Aldridge each scored 25 points, Nicolas Batum added a season-high 24, and the Trail Blazers won their sixth straight with a 118-110 victory over the Toronto Raptors on Sunday. Lillard was 3 for 3 from the floor in the extra period as the Blazers escaped after blowing a 17-point lead in regulation.

"We didn't have a reason to be all riled up.'' Lillard said. "They played well getting back into the game. I think we were calm because we knew what we needed to do to win the game and we were able to get that done."

Rudy Gay forced overtime with a buzzer-beating layup and tied a season high with 30 points to go with 10 rebounds. DeMar DeRozan scored 29 points and Jonas Valanciunas

''The overtime played well, especially defensively," Portland coach Terry Stotts said. "I was proud of the way we competed in overtime, made plays and got the win.''

The Blazers made a seasonhigh 15 3-pointers, finishing 15 for 32 from beyond the arc. Toronto made just three.

"It's tough when they're knocking down shots like that,'' Gay said. ''No matter how much we rotate, move it around and switch, it's tough to play when a team has it going. I'm not happy they made shots, but I'm happy with the effort we put forth."

Portland's lost-distance accuracy wasn't a surprise to the Raptors coach Dwane Casey, who talked about Portland's potent offense before the game.

"(They're) one of the best offensive teams that we've seen," Casey said. "I



Portland Trail Blazers' LaMarcus Aldridge goes up for a shot against Toronto Raptors' Amir Johnson during an NBA basketball game in Toronto on Sunday, Nov. 17, 2013.

Associated Press

think as far as scoring the basketball, averaging 103 points a game, they are a very explosive offensive team so we've got to be on point. We've got to guard the 3-point line.''

Toronto was just 2 for 12 from the floor in overtime, while the Blazers continued to patiently move the ball and connect on 5-for-8 field goals.

Lillard wasn't thrilled with the fourth-quarter collapse, but was pleased with the way his team responded after it.

"We could have folded," Lillard said. "Once we got to overtime, on the bench we just said we need to get some stops, we need to execute and pull this game out. Then we went on the floor and we did it." Batum hoped the young Blazers would use the game as a lesson.

''This wasn't the first time we have done it," Batum said. 🔲

Nascar Championship Continued from page 18

Kenseth's effort just wasn't enough against a Hendrick Motorsports team that wouldn't be denied for a third consecutive year.

"If Jimmie would have got a flat or something, that would have been all right," Kenseth lamented. "Never seen anything like this in the sport and probably never will again. ... Maybe he'll retire."

Johnson won a record five straight titles from 2006 through 2010, was mathematically eliminated before the 2011 finale, but was back in the title hunt last season. Only he had a tire failure in the penultimate race at Phoenix and then a mechanical failure

in the finale to lose the championship to Brad Keselowski.

His two-year drought is over, and his crew was ready for the party on the South Beach.

"You better get a sip of that (water) bottle, it's the only healthy liquid you're going to get all night," Knaus radioed Johnson after he crossed the finish line.

Johnson planned to savor every moment of the celebration and his championship reign.

"This is extremely sweet. I feel like those five years were a blur. And things happen so fast," Johnson said. "It's not that I didn't enjoy it or appreciate it or respect what happened. It just went by so fast it seems like. Now,□



Denny Hamlin celebrates after winning the NASCAR Sprint Cub Series auto race in Homestead, Fla., Sunday, Nov. 17, 2013.

Associated Press

Lexi Thompson wins Lorena Ochoa Invitational



Lexi Thompson holds up her trophy as a mariachi band performs in the background after she won this year's Lorena Ochoa Invitational in Guadalajara, Mexico, Sunday, Nov. 17, 2013.

Associated Press

GUADALAJARA, Mexico (AP) — Lexi Thompson won the Lorena Ochoa Invitational on Sunday for her second victory in her last four starts, birdieing the final hole to beat Stacy Lewis by a stroke.

The 18-year-old Thompson made a 5-foot putt on the par-5 18th, then won when Lewis missed her 5-foot try. "First off, I had like a 50- to 60-footer for the first one, which was interesting getting up there within a few feet," Thompson said. "You

know on the second putt, that's what it all came down to thinking I can make it and went up to it confidently. Just knock it

The third-ranked Lewis, a three-time winner this year, had a 68.

"I knew I had to make it," Lewis said about her birdie try on the final hole. "I had a good line on it, just with these greens, those downhill putts are the hardest ones to make. I hit a good putt. I hit it where I wanted

to. It just didn't go in."

Thompson closed with a 3-under 69 to finish at 16-under 272 at Guadalajara Country Club. She won the 2011 LPGA Navistar Classic at 16, and took the LPGA Malaysia last month for her second tour title.

So Yeon Ryu was third at 13 under after a 69.

Top-ranked Inbee Park finished fourth at 11 under to wrap up the points-based player of the year award

with one event left. She is the first South Korean player to win the award.

"I said all year, there should have been at least two or three girls that already won the award, but nobody really did it," said Park, who shot 69. "It's just really hard to believe and I'm just very lucky I won."

Lewis birdied Nos. 12-14 to take a one-stroke lead. but dropped into a tie with Thompson with a bogey on

the par-3 17th.

"Stacy is an amazing player," Thompson said. "I knew she could make a run at me any time during that round. When she made the twoshot swing on me, I think on No. 12, it brought it back to all squared. I knew I had to make birdies on top of her because she gets on a roll and she doesn't stop. She's an amazing player and played great today."

Stenson wins World Tour Championship in Dubai

BERNIE McGUIRE **Associated Press**

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Henrik Stenson won the season-ending World Tour Championship Sunday after shooting a final-round 8-under 64 for a 263.

With the victory, the Swede became the first golfer to win the PGA Tour's FedEx Cup and European Tour's Race to Dubai in the same



Henrik Stenson from Sweden, right, kisses his wife Emma Lofgren after he won the final round of DP World Golf Championship in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Sunday, Nov. 17, 2013.

Associated Press

American Brittany Bowe breaks world record

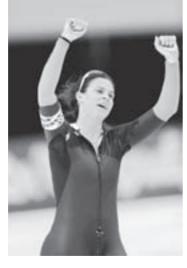
JOHN COON **Associated Press** KEARNS, Utah (AP) American Brittany Bowe broke the world record in the women's 1,000 meters Sunday in a World Cup speedskating race at the Utah Olympic Oval, finishing in 1:12.58.

Bowe broke the record of 1:12.68 set by Canada's Christine Nesbitt in Calgary, Alberta, on Jan. 28, 2012.

"I daydream about it," Bowe said. "I've dreamed in my sleep about it. When it becomes a reality and finally hits you, it's a dream come true."

American Heather Richardson was second in 1:12.61, and the Netherlands' Ireen Wust followed in 1:13.33.

Richardson also celebrat-



Brittany Bowe, of the United States, celebrates after the women's 1000-meter competition at the World Cup speedskating event Sunday, Nov. 17, 2013, in Kearns, Utah. Bowe came in first place. **Associated Press**

ed Bowe's victory.

"We train together every day," Richardson said. "It's great to see her up on

Bowe set her sights on winning the race after finishing second a day earlier. Setting a record didn't really cross her mind until the final

"I knew if I could just hang on, it would be a really fast time," Bowe said.

Japan's Keiichiro Nagashima won the men's 500 in 34.24 seconds. The Netherlands' Ronald Mulder was second in 34.25, and South Korea's Mo Tae-mum was third in 34.28. American Mitchell Whitmore was seventh in 34.52.

The Netherlands swept the top three spots in the men's 5,000. Sven Kramer won in 6:04.59, Bob de Jong was second in 6:07.43, and Jorrit Bergsma third in 6:08.13. American Jonathan Kuck finished fifth in 6:09.73.

"It is still taking a little time to sink in what I've achieved this week as was the case when I won the FedEx Cup but then it just kept getting better and better as the days went on and I am sure this will be the same," he

The final day saw him put up six birdies before ending with an eagle at the 18th

Stenson added: "I have managed to do something very, very special here this week by winning both in America and the Race to

It was Stenson's first European Tour success of the year after winning two of the closing four FedEx Cup Play Off Series events.

He collected a first prize of \$1.333 million to take his earnings in 2013 in Europe alone to \$5.538 million.

"To achieve the double,

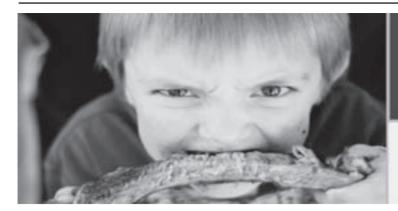
double if you like in winning the DP World Tour Championship and the Race to Dubai on top of winning the PGA Tour Championship to capture the FedEx Cup takes some beating, I guess," Stenson said.

"I am just very, very pleased with the way I played. I knew it was going to be a tough week as I knew the guys like Justin (Rose) and Ian (Poulter) would come charging at me and try to catch me."

England's Ian Poulter birdied his closing two holes, shooting a 66 as he finished second on 19-under par to end the season in second place in the Race to Dubai. "I have to take my hat off to Henrik as he is unbelievable," said Poulter.

"I tried to run him down as hard as I could but even with a sore wrist he has pressed on and I just could not get close enough.





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Ward routs Rodriguez in return from 14 months off

ONTARIO, California (AP)

— Andre Ward returned from a 14-month ring absence with a lop-sided unanimous decision over Edwin Rodriguez on Saturday, defending his WBA super middleweight title.

Ward (27-0) won nearly every round in a dominant effort against the previously unbeaten Rodriguez at Citizens Business Bank Arena. The judges favored Ward 118-106, 117-107 and 116-108 over Rodriguez, who failed to make weight for the bout, so could not win the title.

"It's not always going to be a spectacular performance, but a win is a win," Ward said. "I felt like I did great (after) being off for 14 months, and I'm happy to be back."

The American outclassed Rodriguez (24-1) from the opening minutes, using his jab and inside fighting to control the pace and direction of each round. Rodriguez responded with increasingly desperate tactics, punching Ward in the clinch and in the back of the head.

Referee Jack Reiss became angry after an exchange in the fourth round,

Bar & Seafood Grill



Andre Ward lands a left to the head of Edwin Rodriguez, of the Dominican Republic, in the seventh round of their super middleweight championship boxing match in Ontario, Calif., Saturday, Nov. 16, 2013. Ward won by unanimous decision.

Associated Press

taking away two points from both boxers for hitting on the break.

Ward continued to punish the Dominican, who grew increasingly desperate with inaccurate punches against Ward's superior defense.

"No disrespect to Edwin, but he didn't really come to win, he came to get lucky," Ward said.

"He wants to hold and make it ugly, and hopes he catches you with something big. You've got to learn how to fight those kind of guys."

Ward hadn't fought since September 2012, when he stopped former light heavyweight champion Chad Dawson in arguably the most impressive performance of his pro career. He spent the past 14 months out of the ring. He had surgery on a torn right rotator cuff before getting into a spat with his promoter, Dan Goossen, and struggling to find a suitable opponent for his comeback fight.

Ward settled on Rodriguez, an unbeaten 28-year-old getting what would have been his first major title shot. Instead, Rodriguez missed the weight on Friday, costing him a reported \$200,000.

"I was in here with a bigger man," Ward said. "I use all the little things leading up to the fight, all the talk and all the different things he said as motivation. It's not personal, but I run the extra mile, I spar that extra round when I hear guys talk like that."



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Protecting children's credit, even before they have any

ANN CARRNS

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If you want to make sure your personal information isn't at risk from identity thieves, you can ask to have a security freeze placed on your credit file at the three major credit bureaus - Experian, Equifax and TransUnion. That prevents lenders or credit card companies (that you aren't doing business with) from gaining access to the information and in effect shuts down the chance of unauthorized credit being issued.

Typically, parents have not been able to exercise the freeze option for their children because they usually don't have credit in the first place. But now, several states have passed laws giving parents the right to request similar protections for minors. In effect, parents can ask to have a credit record created, and then have it frozen.

Why would you want to do that? Children's personal information, like a Social Security number, is valued by identity thieves because there typically isn't a credit file associated with the data. That means they can pair the information with any name and date of birth and create a false identity - with clean credit. Thieves can open credit cards and borrow money, and the damage isn't discovered for years, because parents typically don't check a child's credit report.

"It's a persistent problem," although it is hard to assess its magnitude, said Steven Toporoff, a lawyer with the Federal Trade Commission. That's because parents are often unaware anything has happened until the child becomes a young adult and applies for a car loan or a student loan and is rejected. But in 2012, he said, 8 percent of 280,000 identity theft complaints received by the FTC concerned child victims.

Children's information can be at risk at schools and medical offices but also from family members who may be in financial straits and have ruined their own credit. "A lot of the time, it's extended family members who obtain the information and use it, knowing a child's credit record is pristine, and that usually nobody is checking it," said Diane Childs, financial information and identity theft outreach coordinator for the Oregon Division of Finance and Corporate Securities.

As of Sept. 13, residents of Oregon can contact the three major credit bureaus and ask that they create a "protected" record in their child's name - a sort of empty credit file - which is then frozen. The enactment of the law was prompted by a data breach in a state school district. Maryland and Delaware have similar laws. Child identity protection laws take effect next year in Texas and Illinois, and measures are also under consideration in other states, including Wisconsin and Florida.

Utah created a somewhat different program in consultation with TransUnion, which lets parents register their children's information in the credit bureau's "high risk" database. TransUnion searches its files for records with the child's information and notifies the parents if anything is found, said Scott Morrill, program manager for the Child Identity Protection Program at the Utah attorney general's office. And any company seeking to issue credit based on the information gets a warning that the application is likely to be fraudulent. When the child turns 17, the information is automatically removed from the system, he said. Eva Velasquez, chief executive of the Identity Theft Resource Center, said the state laws were a step in the right direction, but she tends to prefer Utah's approach because it doesn't require formal establishment of a record for a minor. 🔲

JPMorgan Chase, investors reach deal

MARCY GORDON AP Business Writer

JPMorgan Chase & Co. has reached a \$4.5 billion settlement with investors who said the bank deceived them about bad mortgage investments.

settlement, nounced late Friday evening and confirmed ovwer the weekend, covers 21 major institutional investors, including competitor Goldman Sachs, BlackRock Financial Management, and

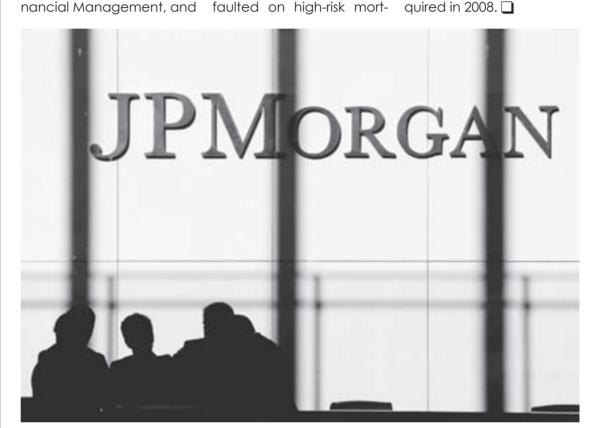
Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. The mortgage-backed securities were sold by JPMorgan — the biggest U.S. bank — and Bear Stearns between 2005 and 2008. The deal is the latest in a series of legal settlements over JPMorgan's sales of mortgage-backed securities in the years preceding the financial crisis. As the

housing market collapsed

between 2006 and 2008,

millions of homeowners de-

gages. That led to billions of dollars in losses for investors who bought securities created from bundles of mortgages. Those securities were sold by JPMorgan and other big Wall Street banks. New York-based JPMorgan has said that most of its mortgage-backed securities came from investment bank Bear Stearns and savings and loan Washington Mutual, troubled companies that JPMorgan acquired in 2008.



The JPMorgan Chase & Co. logo is displayed at their headquarters in New York. JPMorgan Chase & Co. confirmed over the weekend it has reached a \$4.5 billion settlement with investors over mortgage-backed securities.

(AP Photo/Seth Wenig)

Geithner to join private equity firm

DAVID KOENIG

AP Business Writer

Former U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner, who played a central role in the government's response to the financial crisis of 2008-2009, is joining private equity firm Warbura Pincus LLC. The firm announced Saturday that Geithner will serve as its president and managing director starting March 1, 2014.

Geithner led the Federal for more than five years before becoming Treasury secretary in 2009. By that time, the economy had sunk into a deep recession. Few Treasury secretaries received as much scrutiny. Supporters credited Geithner with helping prevent

the recession from spiraling into a second Great Depression, but critics said he was too cozy with Wall

Warburg Pincus said that Geithner would advise the firm on strategy, investing, investor relations and other topics.

The New York-based firm has been involved in buyouts of such well-known companies as luxury delens maker Bausch + Lomb. The firm declined to comment on Geithner's compensation. Through aide, Geithner declined an interview request.

Geithner, 52, stepped down from Treasury in late January, days after President Barack Obama was sworn in for a second term. He was the last of Obama's original economic advisers to leave the administration, and was succeeded as Treasury secretary by Jack Lew.

In an interview with The Associated Press on his last day in office, Geithner said that the economy was "stronger than people appreciate" and predicted partment store chain Nei- a pickup in growth. He Reserve Bank of New York man Marcus and contact defended his role in the bailouts for large banks steps designed to stabilize the financial system — but acknowledged that he would never win over his critics because it was hard to convince people about the dangers posed by the financial crisis.

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Caught in unemployment's revolving door

ANNIE LOWREY © 2013 New York Times

On a cold October morning, just after the federal government shutdown came to an end, Jenner Barrington-Ward headed into court in Boston to declare bankruptcy.

It took weeks to put the paperwork together, given that her papers and belongings were scattered across the country - there was a broken-down car and boxes of paperwork in Virginia Beach, clothes in Colorado and personal possessions at a friend's house in Somerville, Mass. She managed to estimate her income - maybe \$5,000 last year, but maybe half that this year - from odd jobs. Soon, she would officially have nothing.

It has been a painful slide. A five-year spell of unemployment has slowly scrubbed away nearly every vestige of Barrington-Ward's middle-class life. She is a 53-year-old college graduate who worked steadily for three decades. She is now broke and homeless.

Barrington-Ward describes it as "my journey through hell." She was laid off from an administrative position at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 2008; she had earned about \$50,000 that year. With the recession spurring employers to dump hundreds of thousands of workers a month and the unemployment rate climbing to the double digits, she found that no matter the number of résumés she sent out she stopped counting in the thousands - she could not find work.

"I've been turned down from McDonald's because I was told I was too articulate," she says. "I got denied a job scrubbing toilets because I didn't speak Span-

a Laundromat because I was 'too pretty.' I've also been told point-blank to my face, 'We don't hire the unemployed.' And the two times I got real interest from a prospective employer, the credit check ended it immediately."

For Barrington-Ward, joblessness itself has become a trap, an impediment creased social spending, decreased tax revenue and slower growth. Policymakers and academics are now asking whether an improving economy might absorb those workers in time to prevent long-term economic damage.

"I don't think we know the answer," said Jesse Rothstein, an economist at the

ish and turned away from too: lost production, in- and about 4 million others. Facing those kinds of odds, are experiencing - is now one of the defining realities of the American workforce. The unemployment rate has fallen to 7.3 percent, down from 10 percent four years ago. Private businesses have added about 7.6 million positions over the same period. But while recent numbers show that there are about as many

some of the long-term jobless have simply given up and dropped out of the labor force. So while official figures show that the number of long-term jobless has fallen steeply from its recessionary high of 6.7 million, many researchers fear that this number could mean as much bad news as good. Workers older than 50 may be biding their time until they can start receiving Social Security. Younger workers may be going to school to avoid a tough job market. Others may be going on disability, helpina to explain that program's surgina rolls.

Stan Hampton, 59, a veteran of the Iraq War, is now earning his associate degree. But he has not had a job since returning from active duty in 2007, and is now living in an apartment complex for veterans near Las Vegas.

"I'm just trying to hang on until my retirement kicks in," he said, though he stressed that he would still look for a job. "I have not been in jail or prison, nor am I an alcoholic, drug addict or gambling addict. I am simply old, unemployed and out of money."

To answer the question of whether the improving economy might help people like Hampton and Barrington-Ward, economists often phrase the question as "Is it structural or cyclical?" Cyclical unemployment is temporary, caused by a slack economy. Structural unemployment stems from a mismatch between what businesses want and what workers offer. You are a car mechanic, for example, but the economy needs programmers.



Jenner Barrington-Ward rakes leaves in a friend's backyard in Somerville, Mass., in November, 2013. Barrington-Ward, 53 and college educated but without full-time employment for five years, is one of many Americans ground down by a long-term unemployment crisis. (Gretchen Ertl/The New York Times)

to finding a job. Economists see it the same way, concerned that joblessness lasting more than six months is a major factor preventing people from getting rehired, with potentially grave consequences for tens of millions of Americans. The long-term jobless, after all, tend to be in went back to Boston and poorer health, and to have higher rates of suicide and strained family relations. Even the children of the long-term unemployed see lower earnings down the road.

The consequences are grave for the country, University of California, Berkeley. "But right now, I think everybody's worst fears are coming true, as far as we can tell."

Soon after we first talked October, Barrington-Ward left her sister's house in Ohio, where she had crashed for six weeks, and filed her bankruptcy paperwork. She contacted a headhunter. "I've got to get a job," she said. "I just have to." She had two job interviews lined up and her fingers crossed.

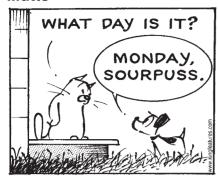
Long-term joblessness - the kind that Barrington-Ward people unemployed for short periods as in 2007 before the crisis hit - they also show that long-term joblessness is up 213 per-

In part, that's because people don't return to work in an orderly, first-fired, firsthired fashion. In any given month, a newly jobless worker has about a 20 to 30 percent chance of finding a new job. By the time he or she has been out of work for six months, though, the chance drops to one in 10, according to research by the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco.

Continued on page 27

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Mutts







6 Chix



Blondie







Mother Goose & Grimm



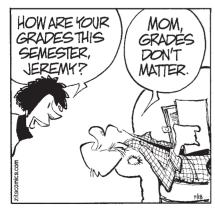
Baby Blues







Zits







Conceptis Sudoku

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8		4			5			9
Difficulty Level ★								

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

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	3	7	6	1	2	4	9	8	5

ACROSS

- __-jet; type of
- printer 4 Passion
- 9 Dermatologist's concern
- 13 City near Lake Tahoe
- 15 Depart 16 Bump : meet
- unexpectedly 17 Perched upón
- 18 Word in the names of many bowling alleys
- 19 Require 20 Invigorating
- drug; upper 22 Jewels
- 23 Accepted standard
- 24 Lincoln, to pals 26 Baseball official
- 29 Cloud over the eye lens 34 Low-ranking
- British peer 35 __ off; diminish
- gradually 36 Misfortune 37 Not closed
- 38 Summoned with a beeper 39 Renown
- 40 Tavern order 41 Stacks 42 _ by surprise;
- startled 43 Predisposition: bent
- 45 Changes one's alarm clock 46 Word of disgust 10 Leg joint
- 47 Cod or carp 48 Snow vehicle 51 Statement of
- protest 56 Fuel, for some 57 Unwilling
- 58 Margarine 60 Villain 61 Bert's buddy
- 62 Close by 63 Broadway
- award 64 Parakeet food 65 Sault __. Marie
- 31 Not sleeping 32 One of Santa's reindeer

DOWN 1 Tax-deferred

retirement acct.

2 Brooklyn team 3 Shoelace

problem 4 Charm; entice

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6 Carvey or

Delany

7 Baker's need

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8 Said again

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12 _ off; falls

asleep

14 Viewpoint

25 Saloon 26 German sub

28 Primp

30 Mimics

21 Dawn, for short

27 Syrup flavor

29 Deceitful; crafty

9 Sewing

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

HOUSE EMMY LEEDS YENS

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- 33 Adolescents 48 Dundee native 35 Powder 49 Company's 38 Tiny punctures 39 In __; stylish
- 41 Cribbage piece 42 Exam 44 Actor __ Moore 45 Wealth
- 50 Deserve 52 Drill a hole 53 TV's Pauley
- 54 Bullring cries 55 Tidy 47 Foul-smelling
 - 59 Raw metal

symbol

Caught in unemployment's revolving door

Continued from page 25

If long-term joblessness is cyclical, a growing economy should bring people back into the job market. But if structural factors are at play, the concern is dire for the whole economy, with a normal unemployment rate "significantly higher than what has been achieved in the past," Janet L. Yellen, the presumptive new Federal Reserve chairwoman, said in a speech this year.

Right now, most economists argue that unemployment remains primarily cyclical. Ben S. Bernanke, the departing Fed chairman, made this point during the summer, adding that an unemployment rate in the 5 percent range - an indication of a healthy economy - was still obtainable. Growth simply hasn't proved strong enough to spur businesses to hire all the people who want jobs. Economists come to this conclusion in part because there is no evidence that the long-term jobless are accumulating in any one industry, which would be a signal that the economy needs to move workers from, say, manufacturing into nursing. Long-term unemployment has hit workers young and old, of all industries, races and backgrounds. But the long-term jobless actually tend to be more educated.

With time, however, even people with desired skills can become "structurally" unemployed. Longer spells of unemployment become harder to explain away. Jobless workers' skills can atrophy.

Job seekers find it harder to appear eager. Wounds become scars.

Economists have long thought that the strain of

unemployment, plus the erosion of skills and loss of contacts that naturally occur, helps explain the "structural" unemployed in a nation's workforce. But new evidence shows that bias plays a much larger role than previously thought. Some of the long-term unemployed might never find work because businesses simply refuse to hire them.

In a recent study, Rand Ghayad a Ph.D. candidate at Northeastern University, sent out 4,800 dummy résumés to job postings. Those résumés that were supposedly from recently unemployed applicants with no relevant experience were more likely to elicit a call for an interview than those supposedly from experienced workers out of a job for more than six months. Indeed, the callback rate for the long-term jobless ranged from just 1 to 3 percent, versus 9 to 16 percent for newly unemployed workers.

Unemployment becomes a "sorting criterion," in the words of a separate study with similar findings. It found that being out of a job for more than nine months decreased interview requests 20 percent among people applying to low- or medium-skilled jobs.

In dozens of interviews, the long-term unemployed described discrimination as being foremost in their minds, though at the same time they said the experience of joblessness had changed them.

Robin Hastey, 53, who lives in Cornwall, N.Y., lost her job in 2009 and has not found steady work since. Her husband went through a spell of unemployment, but eventually found a job that paid half of what he made in the 1990s.



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NASA's newest Mars flyer will explore atmosphere

MARCIA DUNN, AP Aerospace Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (AP) — NASA hopes its newest Mars spacecraft lives up to its know-it-all name.

The robotic explorer called Maven is due to blast off Monday on a 10-month journey to the red planet. There, it will orbit Mars and study the atmosphere to try to understand how the planet morphed from warm and wet to cold and

"A maven is a trusted expert," noted NASA's space science chief, John Grunsfeld. Maven will help scientists "build a story of the Mars atmosphere and help future human explorers who journey to Mars." The \$671 million mission is NASA's 21st crack at Earth's most enticing neighbor, coming on the heels of the Curiosity rover, still rolling

strong a year after its grand

Martian arrival.



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Associated Press

When Maven reaches Mars also will be arriving about

next September, it will join the same time. Maven will three functioning space- be the 10th orbiter to be craft, two U.S. and one Eulaunched to Mars by NASA; ropean. An Indian orbiter three have failed, testimony to the difficulty of the task.

"No other planet, other than perhaps Earth, has held the attention of people around the world than Mars," Grunsfeld said.

Early Mars had an atmosphere thick enough to hold water and moist clouds, said chief investigator Bruce Jakosky of the University of Colorado's Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics in Boulder. Indeed, water flowed once upon a time on Mars, and microbial life might have existed.

"But somehow that atmosphere changed over time to the cold, dry environment that we see today," Jakosky said. "What we don't know is what the driver of that change has been."

Maven — short for Mars Atmosphere and Volatile Evolution, with a capital N in EvolutioN — is the first spacecraft devoted entirely to studying Mars' upper atmosphere. India's orbiter will also study the atmosphere but go a step further, seeking out methane, a possible indicator of

Mars. Gases also may have gone up and become lost to space, stripped away by the sun, molecule by molecule, Jakosky said.

Maven holds eight scientific instruments to measure the upper atmosphere for an entire Earth year — half a Martian year. The boxy, solar-winged craft — as long as a school bus and as hefty as a 5,400-pound (2,450-kilogram) sport utility vehicle — will dip as low as 78 miles (125 kilometers) above the surface for atmospheric sampling, and its orbit will stretch as high as 3,864 miles (6,218 kilometers).

Understanding the makeup and dynamics of Mars' present atmosphere will help guide humans more safely to the planet's surface, especially if the ship takes advantage of the atmosphere for braking, Jakosky said. NASA targets the 2030s for the first manned expedition.

The spacecraft also holds an antenna and radio to serve as a communications relay for NASA's two active Martian rovers, Curiosity and Opportunity, as well as the next pair of landers to be launched in 2016 and 2020.

Maven is considered so important that launch preparations were allowed to resume a couple of days after the start of the 16-day government shutdown. Maven has one month to launch; Earth and Mars line up just so, just every 26 months. So if Maven isn't flying by mid to late December, the spacecraft will be grounded until the beginning of 2016.

The red planet is a notoriously tricky target. NASA has attempted the most, 20 launches so far, and has the best success rate: 70 percent. Russia, in second place with 18 Mars launches, has a dismal 14 percent success rate. China collaborated on one of the Russian flops. Europe and Japan have attempted one Martian mission apiece: the European Mars Express has had mixed results, while the Japanese effort fizzled.

New flasher wrasse species discovered in Indonesia

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) - A new fish of the flasher wrasse species with striking orange color and rounded fins has been found in Indonesia's coral reefs, a conservation group announced Wednesday.

Scientists from Conservation International and the Indonesian Biodiversity Research Centre discovered the species in East Nusa Tenggara province, said a statement from Conservation International.

The discovery was published in the latest Aqua, International Journal of Ichthyology.

The group said the species was named Paracheilinus rennyae in recognition of the scientific contributions of ichthyologist Renny Kurnia Hadiaty from the Indonesian Institute of Sciences. The fish is known only from reefs off southwestern Flores Island and the Komodo National Park area. Although it is the 17th known type of flasher wrasse, it is unique in both its color-



This photo taken on July 28, 2013, released by the Conservation International, shows a new fish of the flasher wrasse species, in Indonesia.

Associated Press

ation and especially the rounded shape of its dorsal and anal fins and tail, and genetically distinct from all other known flasher wrasses in the Coral Triangle, Conservation International said. Flasher wrasses are favorites among divers and underwater photographers due to their electric blue and red color patterns, which are only displayed as part of a daily mating

ritual that normally occurs about an hour before sundown.

At that time, the normally brownish-colored rise up in the water column and "flash" their spectacular mating coloration while erecting their fins and swimming in short bursts of speed in an attempt to impress nearby female flasher wrasses and encourage them to spawn.

Scientists theorize that some of the early atmospheric water and carbon dioxide went down into the crust of the Martian surface — there is evidence of carbonate minerals on



MSNBC suspends Alec Baldwin's show for 2 episodes

LYNN ELBER

AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Alec Baldwin's new weekly MS-NBC talk show was suspended for two episodes after the actor was videotaped using an anti-gay epithet against a photographer during a New York street encounter. The cable channel didn't specify the reason it yanked Friday night's "Up Late with Alec Baldwin" from its schedule this week and next, but the decision came the day af-

In a statement on MSNBC's website, Baldwin wrote that he "did not intend to hurt or offend anyone with my choice of words, but clearly I have — and for that I am deeply sorry."

ter the Thursday run-in.

He said his actions came as he tried to protect his family — presumably from the photographer — but were unacceptable and undermine "hard-fought rights that I vigorously support." The video, which was posted on TMZ, also drew a tweeted apology from Baldwin in which he claimed he was unaware the term he used was offensive to gays.

MSNBC declined further comment. Baldwin's representative said in an email Friday night that the actor would decline to comment. The incident came during the week a Canadian actress was convicted in New York of stalking Baldwin with calls, emails and visits over a two-year period. Genevieve Sabourin was sentenced to six months in jail in addition to a month she's already serving for her courtroom outbursts. Baldwin's wife, Hilaria, said in a statement afterward that the two "feel safe, relieved and happy to move forward" with the case resolved.

But Baldwin reportedly lost his cool again Friday when a reporter for a New York



In this Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2013 file photo, actor Alec Baldwin leaves criminal court in New York.

Associated Press

TV channel asked about the trial and, according to Variety.com, Baldwin called him "dumb." The exchange took place outside Baldwin's apartment building, the website said.

Baldwin's career has included Oscar and Tony nominations and originat-

ing action hero Jack Ryan in the 1990 film "The Hunt for Red October" as well as his Emmy-winning turn on "30 Rock."

He's also known for his temper. He was kicked off a plane in 2011 after refusing to stop playing a cellphone game, and he's

gotten into confrontations with news photographers. He and a New York Post lensman filed harassment complaints against each other after an altercation in February, and a Daily News photographer said Baldwin punched him in 2012, which Baldwin denied.

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Box office: 'Best Man' nearly topples 'Thor'

By JAKE COYLE AP Film Writer

NEW YORK (AP) -- In an unlikely battle of sequels, "Thor: The Dark World" bested "The Best Man Holiday" at the box office.

Disney's "Thor: The Dark World" continued its boxoffice reign with \$38.5 million in its second week of release, according to studio estimates Sunday. Opening 15 years after the original "The Best Man," Universal's "The Best Man Holiday" opened strongly with \$30.6 million.

Drawing an overwhelmingly female and African-American audience, "The Best Man Holiday" was a surprise challenger for the mighty "Thor." The R-rated romantic comedy, with an ensemble cast including Morris Chestnut and Taye Diggs, debuted with more than three times the box office of 1999's "The Best Man." That film opened with \$9 million.

The performance of Malcolm D. Lee's "The Best Man Holiday" continued an ongoing trend. Movies that appeal particularly to black audiences have often been surpassing expectations at the box office.

"It's a familiar refrain, and it's getting a little tired," said Lee.

"I thought we had a chance to do something special."

"Lee Daniels' The Butler" led the box office for several weeks in August, leading to a cumulative total of \$115.5 million domestically. The Oscar-contender "12 Years a Slave" has made



This image released by Universal Pictures shows, from left, Taye Diggs, Morris Chestnut, Harold Perrineau and Terrence Howard in a scene from "The Best Man Holiday."

Associated Press

\$25 million in five weeks of limited release.

Lee said that while black audiences "see everything" at the movies, from action movies to romantic comedies, he hopes broader audiences begin responding to so-called "black films."

The audience for "Best Man Holiday" was 87 percent African-American. Regardless, a third "Best Man" film now seems a likely bet. "If there is going to be a sequel, it won't take 14 years," granted Lee.

Marvel's Norse superhero, however, has been hammering audiences around the globe.

"Thor: The Dark World" made \$52.5 million internationally over the weekend, bringing its worldwide total to \$479.8 million.

With Chris Hemsworth as the title character and Tom Hiddleston as the popular villain Loki, the Thor franchise has proven to be one of Marvel's most successful. Just as "Thor" approached the half-billion mark, Warner Bros.' space adventure "Gravity" crossed it. In seven weeks of release, "Gravity" has made \$514.9 million globally.

"The Best Man Holiday" was the only new widerelease opening over the weekend, as the marketplace clears out for the release of "The Hunger Games: Catching Fire." In limited release, Alexander Payne's black-and-white Midwest road trip "Nebraska" opened in four locations with a solid \$35,000 per theater average for Paramount Pictures.

Martin Scorsese's "The Wolf of Wall Street" was originally slated to open, but was postponed to Dec. 25 by Paramount.

Expected to be one of the year's biggest debuts, Lionsgate's "Catching Fire" will abruptly close the boxoffice window for "Thor" next weekend. "Catching Fire" opened in Brazil over the weekend, earning \$6.3 million.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Rentrak.



This image released by Starpix shows actor Judd Hirsch at a private screening of the film, "The Great Beauty," in New

Associated Press

NY neighbors oppose Judd Hirsch's planned wind turbine

DENNING, New York (AP) — Some residents of a town in New York's Catskill Mountains are trying to stop actor Judd Hirsch from building a 177-foot wind turbine on his property.

Dozens of Hirsch's neighbors in the town of Denning have signed a petition opposing the "Taxi" star's plan for a turbine on his 96-acre property.

Richard Benktwitt lives in a log house about a mile from Hirsch. He tells The New York Times that the turbine "would ruin the beauty of the location."

The 78-year-old Hirsch tells the Times that his neighbors' fears are "baloney." He says the wind turbine's generator will cut his electricity bill to zero.

Another neighbor, Barry Schaefer, says he is in favor of alternative energy but he worries that the turbine will be noisy.

Netflix revives 'The Killing' for final six episodes

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Netflix says it is reviv-sion, producer Fox Television Studios said. AMC.

A fourth and final season will be available to Netflix subscribers, the streaming service said Friday.

Six episodes are planned to give the crime drama a "proper send-off," Netflix executive Cindy Holland said in a statement.

Stars Mireille Enos and Joel Kinnaman will return to the crime drama for its conclu-

ing "The Killing" after its cancellation by "The Killing," based on a Danish series and developed by Veena Sud, has had a rocky history.

> AMC canceled it after a second-year ratings slump, reversed its decision and then axed it again after the third season aired in the summer.

> Netflix said the final six episodes of "The Killing" will be available for instant viewing but didn't announce the release date.



In this publicity image released by AMC, Mireille Enos is shown in a scene from "The Killing."

Associated Press

Anuba_TODAY

The Money Trap



PAUL KRUGMAN © 2013 New York Times

When Greece hit the skids almost four years ago, some analysts (myself included) thought that we might be seeing the beginning of the end for the euro, Europe's common currency. Others were more optimistic, believing that tough love - temporary aid tied to reform - would soon produce recovery.

Both camps were wrong. What we actually got was a rolling crisis that never seems to reach any kind of resolution. Every time Europe seems ready to go over the edge, policymakers find a way to avoid complete disaster. But every time there are hints of true recovery, something else goes

And here we go again. Not long ago, European officials were declaring that the Continent had turned the corner, that market confidence was returning and growth was resuming. But now there's a new source of concern, as the specter of deflation looms over much of Europe. And the debate over how to respond is turning seriously ugly.

Some background: The European Central Bank, or ECB, Europe's equivalent of the Federal Reserve, is supposed to keep inflation close to 2 percent. Why not zero? Several reasons, but the most important point right now is that an overall European inflation rate too close to zero would translate into actual deflation in the troubled economies of southern Europe. And deflation has nasty economic side effects, especially in countries already burdened by high debt.

So it's a source of great concern that European inflation has started dropping far below target; over the past year, consumer prices rose only 0.7 percent, while "core" prices that exclude volatile food and energy costs rose only 0.8 percent.

Something had to be done, and last week the ECB cut interest

As policy decisions go, this had the distinction of being both obviously appropriate and obviously inadequate: Europe's economy clearly needs a boost, but the ECB's action will surely make, at best, a marginal difference. Still, it was a move in the right direction.

Yet the move was hugely controversial, both inside and outside the ECB.

And the controversy took an ominous form, at least for anyone who remembers Europe's terrible

For grauments over European monetary policy aren't just a battle of ideas; increasingly, they sound like a battle of nations,

For example, who voted against the rate cut? Both German members of the ECB board, joined by the leaders of the Dutch and Austrian central banks. Who, outside the ECB, was harshest in criticizing the action? German economists, who made a point not just of attacking the substance of the bank's action but of emphasizing the nationality of Mario Draghi, the bank's president, who is Italian.

The influential German economist Hans-Werner Sinn declared that Draghi was just trying to give Italy access to low-interest loans. The chief economist of the newsweekly WirtschaftsWoche called the rate cut a "diktat from a new Banca d'Italia, based in Frankfurt.'

Such insinuations are grossly unfair to Draghi, whose efforts to contain the euro crisis have been little short of heroic.

I'd go so far as to say that the euro probably would have collapsed in 2011 or 2012 without his leadership. But never mind the personalities. What's scary here is the way this is turning into the Teutons versus the Latins, with the euro - which was supposed to bring Europe together - pulling it apart instead.

What's going on? Some of it is national stereotyping: The German public is eternally vigilant against the prospect that those lazy southern Europeans are going to make off with its hardearned money.

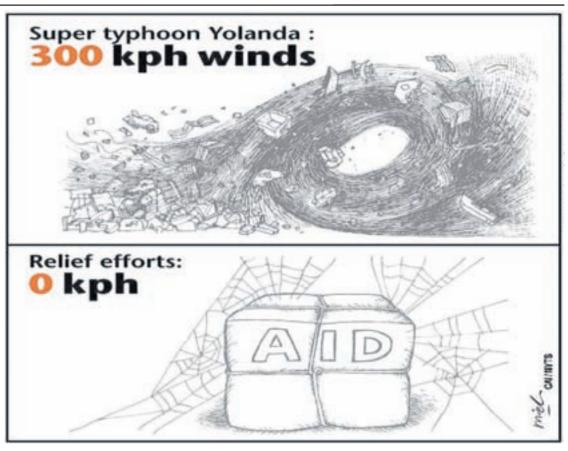
But there's also a real issue here. Germans just hate inflation, but if the ECB succeeds in getting average European inflation back up to around 2 percent, it will push inflation in Germany - which is booming even as other European nations suffer Depressionlike levels of unemployment - substantially higher than that, maybe to 3 percent or more.

This may sound bad, but it's how the euro is supposed to work. In fact, it's the way it has to work. If you're going to share a currency with other countries, sometimes you're going to have above-average inflation.

In the years before the global financial crisis, Germany had low inflation while countries like Spain had relatively high inflation. Now the rules of the game require that the roles be reversed, and the question is whether Germany is prepared to accept those rules. And the answer to that question isn't clear.

The truly sad thing is that, as I said, the euro was supposed to bring Europe together, in ways both substantive and symbolic. It was supposed to encourage closer economic ties, even as it fostered a sense of shared identity.

What we're getting instead, however, is a climate of anger and disdain on the part of both creditors and debtors. And the end is still nowhere in sight.



French Muscle, American Cheese



THE NEW YORK TIMES

ROGER COHEN © 2013 New York Times

PARIS - French-American relations, often a study in how close love can be to hatred, have taken an interesting turn of late. The cheese-eating surrender monkeys of France, in the phrase from "The Simpsons," have become the world's meat-chomping enforcement tigers. As for the United States, it has, in the French view, gone a touch camembert-

The administration of President François Hollande is not known for its decisiveness on the domestic front. Vacillation accompanies economic drift. But, perhaps in compensation, it has shown a resolute streak in international affairs. From Mali to Syria and now Iran, French firmness has been the rule. Paris finds itself to the right of Washington.

This has led to differences. There is talk of the trauma of Aug. 31. On that Saturday afternoon, Hollande took a call from President Barack Obama. A ramped-up France was in a state of readiness for the expected joint military response the next morning to the Syrian regime's use of chemical weapons. Until Obama let drop his now notorious "non" after he had opted for a different course. France felt ill-used, having stretched to support its ally as Britain faltered, only to find itself dangling in foolish-looking vassal mode. Now, some 10 weeks later, Syria has revealed its chemical weapons arsenal and committed to giving it up. But, in the French view, the last-minute deal has also legitimized President Bashar Assad, put a nail in the coffin of the nonradical Syrian opposition and so set back any conceivable resolution of a devastating conflict. The French view is persuasive.

Then along came the Iran nuclear dossier, a subject on which successive French presidents - from Jacques Chirac through Nicolas Sarkozy to Hollande have had a consistent view: The Islamic Republic wants a bomb; only a tough approach will stop it. Once again, the French had the feeling of being presented by the Obama administration with a wobbly fait accompli.

For weeks before the Geneva meeting at which hopes for an accord first soared and then sank, the United States and Iran had opened a quiet two-way neactiation on a six-month interim deal. Officials close to Laurent Fabius, the French foreign minister, told me these bilateral discussions had produced an agreed U.S.-Iranian text (with caveats) by the time the Geneva talks opened. When the French saw it, they were troubled.

Their concerns focused on three areas: the heavy-water plant at Arak that Iran is building, where the outline agreement seemed to allow continued construction; language that appeared to concede prematurely an Iranian "right to enrich" or something close to it; and what measures Iran would take to dispose of its stockpile of 20 percent-enriched uranium. Much of the Geneva meeting focused on the French aim to close these loopholes only for the changes to prove unacceptable to Mohammad Javad Zarif, Iran's foreign minister, and his team.

The next few weeks will tell whether France improved the deal or lost it. The conviction in Paris is that the accord is still doable. "We did not feel it was smart to rush and we did not feel the original text was balanced," one official said. "Six months in Arak is a long time. Plutonium is a different issue."

The overall feeling in France observing U.S. actions in the Middle East is of a troubling uncertainty, a retreat that tends to leave a vacuum, a new American determination to work with a "light footprint" that can give the impression of disinterest.

In a speech this week for the 40th anniversary of the formation of the French Policy Planning Staff, Fabius dwelt on this perceived trend. "The United States seems no longer to wish to become absorbed by crises that do not align with its new vision of its national interest," he said, suggesting this explained "the nonresponse by strikes to the use of chemical weapons by the Damascus regime, whatever the red lines set a year earlier.'

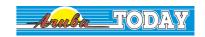
He went on to say this U.S. redirection seemed likely to be "durable," reflecting the "heavy trauma of the interventions in Iraq and Afghanistan" and the current "rather isolationist tendency" in American public opinion.

Because nobody can take the place of the United States, this disengagement could create "major crises left to themselves," Fabius said, and "a strategic void could be created in the Middle East," with widespread perception of "Western indecision" in a world less multipolar than "zero-

The United States, of course, is not auitting the Middle East and isolationist tendencies are easily overstated - as Fabius later con-

But his warnings are worth heeding. Obama spoke to Hollande this week; he expressed how "the United States deeply values its relationship with France." The president could borrow some French toughness to get a winning Iran deal.

When the cheese-eaters are in the White House, it is time to wor-



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Aruba's Majestic Carnival Season Comes To Life!



PALM BEACH - Palm Beach Plaza Mall new majestic carnival season has started at Aruba's largest mall. The Aruba Carnival is a thrilling show of over-the-top pageantry, produced by thousands and delighting and uniting the entire country. Here's the scoop on how it began.

Carnival was born in 1954,



as a series of small street festivals. The Tivoli Club, Aruba's oldest private social club, was the first to have a pre-Lenten celebration in Oranjestad in February 1944. The Allied victory of World War II was commemorated by an Aruba Festival - a large parade in San Nicolas comprised largely of Caribbean-English immigrants who came to Aruba to work at the Lago Oil Refinery. The first steel and brass bands debuted a few years later and small parades sprouted here and there.

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ba's Carnival culture with the opportunity to take pictures with the majestic carnival dancers with carnival costumes. Come and enjoy the show!



